

REMARKS

Claims 1-22 are pending in this application. By this Amendment, claims 1, 18 and 19 are amended. Reconsideration of the application is respectfully requested.

The courtesies extended to Applicant's representative by Examiners Culbert and Olsen at the personal interview held April 21, 2005, are appreciated. The reasons presented at the interview as warranting favorable action are incorporated into the remarks below and constitute Applicants' record of the interview.

1. Claim Objection

The Office Action objects to claims 18 and 19. Claims 18 and 19 are amended to overcome the Examiner's objection. Accordingly, withdrawal of the objection to the claims is respectfully requested.

2. Drawing Objection

The Office Action objects to the drawings because they do not show the features of claim 20. As agreed during the April 22, 2005 telephone interview, the objection to the drawings is waived. As such, withdrawal of the objection to the drawings is respectfully requested.

3. Prior Art

The Office Action rejects claims 1, 2 and 4-19 under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) over Qiu et al. (U.S. Patent Publication No. 2003/0029705); claims 1-5 and 14 and 19-22 under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) over Hichwa et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,303,885); claims 15, 16 and 20-22 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Qiu in view of Hichwa; claim 3 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Qiu in view of Wood (U.S. Patent No. 6,367,251); and claim 3 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Hichwa in view of Wood. The rejections are respectfully traversed.

As agreed during the personal and telephone interviews, none of the applied references, either alone or in combination, disclose or suggest a method for fabricating a

- bistable microelectromechanical system that includes providing optical fibers between a position of a first stable state and a position of a second stable state, as recited in independent claim 1. Accordingly, withdrawal of the rejections of the claims under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) and 35 U.S.C. §103(a) is respectfully requested.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance of claims 1-22 are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,



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